

B1
alternate with draining layers 5. For the geometry of the filter layers 1 and the draining layers 5 for example a round shape can be chosen, as proceeds from Figures 2 a - c. The filter module 4 is surrounded by the space 2 for the unfiltered material and in the center has a filtrate space 3 in the form of a channel. Accordingly both the filter layers 1 and also the draining layers 5 have a central hole. The flow direction of the filtrate and the unfiltered material is indicated by arrow.

Please change the paragraph appearing on page 9, lines 5-22 to read as follows:

B2
C1
Figure 1 shows another embodiment of the filter module 4. Between the draining layers 5a, 5b there are filter regions which include several filter layers 1a - 1d. These filter layers 1a - 1d have a degree of separation which rises when viewed in the flow direction, and for example the layer 1d can be a disinfection layer. The disinfection layer 1d is located directly in front of the draining layer 5b for the filtrate and has an especially high degree of separation. In this way the unfiltered material is filtered in stages and thus ensures an especially high service life of the filter module. The filter layers 1a - 1c in this embodiment, like the draining layer 5a which carries the unfiltered material, has filter elements 6 toward the filter space 3. Since the sealing elements of these layers adjoin one another, an one-piece element in the form of a sealing tube can be used. Since the disinfection layer 1d is that layer with the highest degree of separation, the unfiltered material flowing directly to the filtrate space 3 is adequately cleaned and therefore does not require a sealing element.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please further amend the remaining pending claims herein as follows:²

² Pursuant to Rule 121(c), a marked-up version of the amended claims appears in Appendix II hereto and shows all changes by underlining added language and bracketing deleted language.